



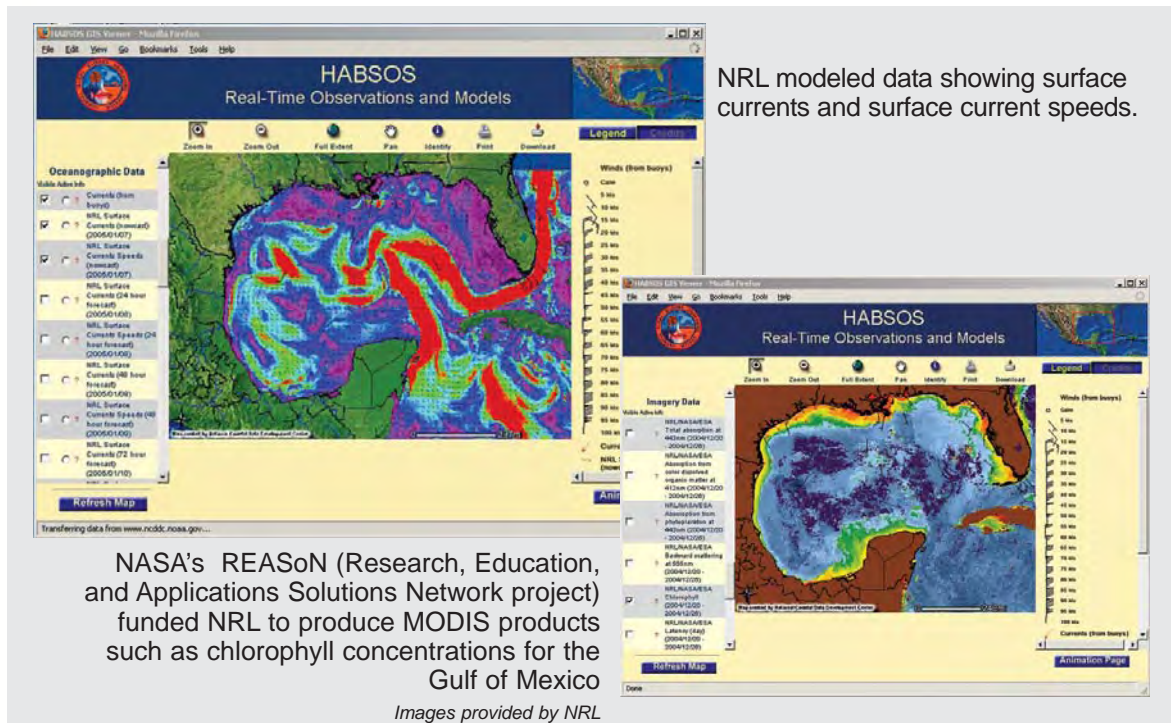
# Harmful Algal Blooms Observing System (HABSOS)

The EPA-NOAA Harmful Algal Blooms Observing System (HABSOS) Gulf of Mexico Pilot Project was a multi-agency initiative to develop a virtual HAB data-base and tools to enhance communication and decision support for the state resource managers to monitor, forecast and predict the dynamics of algal blooms. The pilot project has now transitioned to near real time capability. The project now serves as an archive for the cell count data. The near real time application for HABSOS displays model data for surface currents, surface currents speeds, sea surface heights, sea surface salinities, and sea surface temperatures provided by the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) located at Stennis Space Center, as well as, data from various other sources. This application also provides access to displays of models, remote sensing imagery and in-situ wind data. Typical data sets span a three day period.



## HABSOS Highlights:

- In 2004 HABSOS was awarded 3rd place in the Gulf Guardian Awards in the Government category with a partnership between NCDDC and the Institute for Marine Remote Sensing, College of Marine Sciences, University of South Florida. The Gulf Guardian Awards were created in 2000 by the partnership of the Gulf of Mexico Program to recognize environmental excellence in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.
- HABSOS continues to work with the Mexican states to include them with the Near Real Time Application for a bi-national effort to monitor HABs.
- Now Available! Online data entry tool for cell count data.



## For more information:

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- Please visit our web site: <http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/habsos>